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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 36 | Min 22 | Humidity 25% Partly Sunny Sensex 78,516 | Nifty 24,378 | Gold 1,52,842 | Silver 2,49,210 | Dollar 93.72 | Euro 110.08 | GBP 126.69

CRACK THE CODE

No wearing kurta-pajama, jeans or shoes to CET exam centres or the dress code officers will get you

PAGE 2

IN DUE TIME

Municipal corporations may soon buy out properties of tax defaulters at guidance value to recover long-pending dues

PAGE 6

As GBA readies to set up bamboo screens across stormwater drains in city to improve aesthetics, cut out bad odour, civic activists ask: What about all the previous grand plans — remember K100, remember saplings planted as consolation prizes?

BUILDING A CANE CASTLE IN THE AIR

Young bamboo requires frequent watering, environmentalist reminds authorities

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

To address foul smell emanating from stormwater drains, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) plans to install bamboo screens across the stormwater drain (SWD) network in the city. The project will be planned and executed in consultation with the Bamboo Society of India. Civic activists, however, stress that it is important to finish old projects before jumping headfirst into new ones.

Under the project, bamboo saplings will be planted next to the concrete retaining walls of stormwater drains across the city.

"We are considering a clumping bamboo variety that tends to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Nose knows best: If plan works out well, stench from storm water drains will be a thing of the past

PAGE 4: RESOURCE DRAIN

"Bamboo plantation along SWDs and lakes is not replacing our annual plantation drive. GBA already has nearly one lakh saplings in its nurseries for the plantation drive. Tenders for that will be called soon

—GBA official

Where is your head at?

Study notes pillion riders more likely to not wear helmets; nearly 47.2% surveyed relied on cap helmet, only 50.9% had strapped the headgear on

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Despite years of road safety campaigns and strict enforcement, helmet compliance among pillion riders continues to lag significantly, emerging as a major safety concern. Recent data from the traffic police reveals that out of over 10.7 lakh helmet-related violations recorded until March 2026 of which nearly 3.58 lakh cases involve pillion riders travelling without helmets. Over 7.2 lakh cases were booked against riders without helmets during the same period.

This means that pillion riders account for roughly 33% of all helmet violations in the city, or about one in every three cases, pointing to a compliance gap that enforcement alone has failed to address.

A study titled 'Helmet protection paradox for powered two-wheeler users: Concerns in data misinterpretation and need for improved data systems', records observations at 15 randomly selected locations involving five 90-minute sessions per day for three days per location. The study indicated that the prevalence of helmet use among two-wheeler users is 88% but

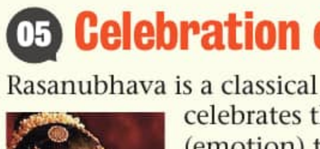
CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Fandom of the opera

Created by acclaimed director and composer Kevin Oliver and presented in support of the Kempegowda International Airport Foundation (KIAF), Odyssey of Love is a contemporary pop opera blending music, fashion and storytelling into a visually rich and immersive spectacle.
Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar;
When: May 7

02 Family fun

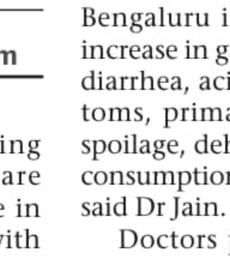


The Oterra Hotel is hosting a Kids Carnival Brunch, bringing a vibrant world of cartoon legends and superhero adventures. While parents enjoy a premium spread, children can dive into interactive games, live performances and more.
Where: The Oterra Hotel, 24@43, Electronic City;
When: Every Sunday until May 31

03 Moving music

Rudraksha Live Entertainment Pvt Ltd presents Jazbaa, a concert featuring Vishal and Rekha Bhardwaj — a powerhouse duo in Indian music and cinema, known for their deeply moving collaborations and individual brilliance.
Where: Phoenix Marketcity;
When: May 30, 7 pm

04 Savour the stories



Atta Galatta is presenting Divine Delicacies, a unique experience where samples of prasadams from various temples will be served along with the stories of places of worship and the perceived food preferences of the divine.
Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar;
When: April 26, 12.30 pm

05 Celebration of tradition

Rasanubhava is a classical dance festival that celebrates the journey from Rasa (emotion) to Bhava (expression), bringing together extraordinary artists and the timeless traditions of Indian performing arts on one stage.

Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleshwaram;
When: April 25, 5 pm

Dress code officers, strict guidelines introduced for CET

Designated officials to oversee adherence to dress code at exam centres, along with clear clothing guidelines for students as part of measures to curb malpractice

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Over 3.3 lakh candidates are expected to appear for CET across 745 centres this year (File photo)

In a first, a dedicated dress code officer has been appointed at every examination centre as part of tightened measures to ensure fair conduct of exams. Candidates have been instructed to wear half-sleeve clothing, preferably without collars, along with simple trousers having minimal pockets. Attire such as kurta-pyjama, jeans and shoes has been prohibited. While mangalsutra is permitted, no other jewellery will be allowed inside the examination hall. The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has also banned electronic items including mobile phones, Bluetooth devices, earphones and microphones.

To curb malpractice, mobile jammers have been installed at select centres, and verification will be carried out through facial recognition and QR codes. Candidates have been advised to reach the examination centres at least two hours in advance to complete verification procedures smoothly.

KEA ready for CET 2026

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has completed all preparations for the Common Entrance Test (CET) 2026, conducted for admissions to engineering and other professional courses. The examination will be held on April 23 and 24 across 745 centres in the state, with around 3.3 lakh candidates expected to appear.

KEA Executive Director H Prasanna said the authority is fully prepared to conduct the examination in a transparent manner under strict guidelines. He stated that all centres will be equipped with CCTV surveillance and only registered candidates will be allowed to appear. Attendance will be verified using facial recognition systems to ensure authenticity.

As per KEA Executive Director, all preparations are in place to ensure transparency during exams, with CCTV surveillance at all centres, facial recognition for attendance and entry restricted to registered candidates only

Hall tickets are already being issued, and candidates have been advised to verify their examination centre details and address in advance. They must report on time along with their admit cards. Items such as food, water bottles, electronic gadgets and other valuables are prohibited inside examination centres. Drinking water will be provided at the venues.

In light of past controversies surrounding dress code, KEA has issued clear instructions this year. Candidates are required to wear simple attire. Long-sleeved clothing and leather shoes are not permitted. The authority has urged students to cooperate in maintaining transparency during the examination process. Last year, incidents related to removal of religious threads in Shivamogga and Bidar had sparked debate. This time, officials have been given proper guidance, and both students and parents have been sensitised in advance to avoid confusion.

KEA has also received around 3.3 lakh applications for the exam. Candidates will be allowed to make corrections to their documents until the evening of April 24. This provision is intended to help those who may have missed uploading certain documents or need to rectify errors.

Rising heat brings digestive health troubles for Bengaluru

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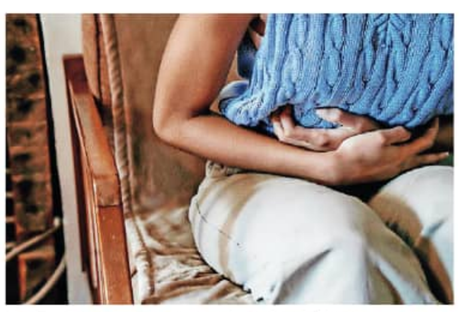
As Bengaluru battles rising temperatures, doctors are observing a parallel spike in digestive health issues, with cases of acidity, infections, and Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) flare-ups becoming increasingly common, driven by dehydration, unsafe food habits, and erratic lifestyles during peak summer.

According to Dr Pravesh K Jain, Senior Consultant Medical Gastroenterology, Apollo Hospitals Bengaluru, the impact is already visible in clinical settings. "Rising heat in Bengaluru is driving a 20 per cent increase in gastrointestinal issues like diarrhea, acidity, and IBS-like symptoms, primarily due to faster food spoilage, dehydration, and increased consumption of contaminated food," said Dr Jain.

Doctors point out that extreme heat accelerates bacterial growth in food, especially when not stored properly, increasing the risk of infections. At the same time, dehydration, common during hot weather, disrupts normal gut function, leading to symptoms such as constipation, bloating, and abdominal discomfort.

Highlighting patient trends, Dr Jain explained, "Heatwaves increase fluid loss, often leading to constipation, bloating, and abdominal discomfort. Irregular eating patterns, such as skipping meals or late heavy meals, can trigger acidity, indigestion, and worsen reflux symptoms. Further, patients with Irritable Bowel Syndrome commonly report more cramps, bloating, urgency, and altered bowel habits during hot weather."



Gastrointestinal issues like diarrhea, acidity and IBS-like symptoms are on the rise

However, experts note that while heat exacerbates symptoms, the underlying causes may vary. Dr Harshavardhan Rao B, HOD & Consultant, Department of Gastroenterology, Ramaiah Memorial Hospital, offers a nuanced perspective.

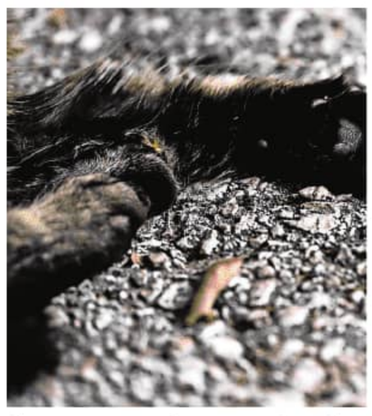
"Rising heat is contributing to an increase in digestive issues, mainly related to acidity and infections. IBS, per se, is not related to environmental conditions. It is more likely related to stress rather than environmental changes. We are seeing a much higher rate of infections, and a much higher rate of acidity because of irregular eating habits and unsafe sources of food and water," said Dr Rao.

What both experts agree on is the clear surge in food-borne illnesses. Dr Jain notes a seasonal pattern, stating, "There is a clear seasonal rise in food-borne illnesses during summer. High temperatures facilitate rapid bacterial contamination, especially in improperly stored or handled food. We commonly see cases of acute gastroenteritis linked to consumption of street food, contaminated water, or inadequately refrigerated meals."

Emphasising food and water safety, Dr Rao said, "It is important to make sure the source of food and water is carefully considered."

Puppy beaten to death over suspected rabies infection

An alleged case of animal cruelty emerged from Ramamurthy Nagar on April 21, where a puppy was reportedly beaten to death inside a compound. According to a local feeder, the act was carried out on the false suspicion that the dog was infected with rabies. The body was later sent to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Spandana for post-mortem and rabies testing.



Animal rights activists have condemned the incident, stating that it violates both legal and public health protocols. As per mandate, suspected rabies cases must be reported and isolated, not subjected to violence. The act is a punishable offence under the Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Citizens and activists have urged Ramamurthy Nagar Police to conduct a thorough investigation and promptly lodge an FIR to ensure those responsible are arrested and held accountable. —BMB

Scuffle erupts at bus stop

A physical altercation broke out among passengers at the crowded BMTC bus stop in Electronic City Phase 2 around 8.43 am on April 22, causing chaos and disrupting peak-hour traffic on the busy stretch.

Footage of the scuffle, now viral on social media platform X, shows a group of passengers pushing and shoving near yellow barricades beside a blue BMTC bus, hampering the movement of other vehicles. City police and BMTC staff have launched inquiries into the incident, which unfolded during the morning rush and drew widespread attention online. —BMB

Stationary lorry rammed, driver injured

A lorry driver sustained grievous injuries in an accident on April 22 along the Tumakuru–Bengaluru National Highway near Arishinakunte. The incident occurred when a stationary lorry, parked on the roadside due to a puncture, was rammed from behind by another lorry.

Witnesses allege the moving lorry's driver may have dozed off while driving. The injured victim was rushed to the nearest hospital and is currently undergoing treatment. The collision caused a prolonged traffic jam on the busy highway.

Officials from the National Highways Authority arrived to clear the damaged vehicles, while traffic police carried out a preliminary investigation into the incident. —BMB

Transfer order clashes with BSWML requirements

UDD's strict 10-day joining directive for engineers conflicts with BSWML's plea to retain staff or arrange alternatives

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A recent order by the Urban Development Department (UDD) Under Secretary transferring 44 engineers across cities hints at lack of coordination with Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML), as 19 of those engineers, including 10 environmental and 9 assistant executive engineers, remain unrelieved despite the directive.

The UDD order, issued on April 13, 2026, states that these engineers are being transferred as 40 per cent of posts remain vacant across various local bodies in the state. "All the engineers from municipal administration who were on deputation to other departments have to report to duty at the designated locations where they were transferred. All of them have to report to duty within 10 days. Disciplinary action will be taken against those who failed to report to duty within the specified time," the order read.

The 10 environmental engineers and 9 assistant executive engineers (designated as Assistant General Managers) are on deputation to the BSWML. They have been transferred to distant places such as Madikeri, Kushalnagar, Sakleshpura, Kumata, Muddebihal, Basavana Bagewadi, Ankola, Hoovina Hadagali, Kamalapura, Kampli, Kurekuppa, Karatagi, Gajendragad, Mudgal, Lakshmeshwara, Mudaragi, Shiggaon, Rona, Maski, Bankapura, Kakkera, Aland, Savanur, and Chikkanayakanahalli Municipal Corporations.

BSWML Chief Executive Officer Karee Gowda has written a letter to the Secretary of Urban Development Department, on April 16, 2026, requesting for the officials to be permitted to continue working at BSWML as they have experience in waste management. "The BSWML does not have engineers and transferring these engineers will affect waste management in the city," the letter read.

Meanwhile, social activists and environmentalists want the UDD to follow norms and ensure these engineers are transferred as many of them have been on deputation for more than two years in the same department.

"All the government employees are bound to follow the norms. These engineers have to obey the UDD order and report to duty at the designated municipal corporations," said Dinesh Kallahalli, a social activist.

Activists urge UDD to follow norms and transfer engineers, noting many have served on deputation in same department for over two years

Gowdaiah, an environmentalist, observed that many engineers working with the BSWML still require greater training and expertise to effectively manage the city's waste challenges. "I am of the opinion that the BSWML is authorised to recruit engineers instead of having engineers on deputation," he said.

When contacted, BSWML CEO Karee Gowda said that no alternative arrangements were made till date. "These engineers will be relieved from the BSWML as soon as alternative arrangements are made," he said.

UDD Under Secretary T Manjunath said that all the engineers must report to duty without fail. "They have to report to duty within 10 days," he said.

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Choked drains raise flood fears before monsoon in Halasuru

Residents urge rapid action as storm water drains remain clogged with weeds and garbage, increasing flood risks across Halasuru and neighbouring areas this monsoon

The storm water drain near Halasuru is full of weeds and garbage

"The lakes and stormwater drain system must be monitored continuously, with filters installed at inlets to prevent debris entry. The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) needs to act decisively before the monsoons arrive

–Vinod Jacob (urban strategist)

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c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
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The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) directed engineers to conduct inspections and surveys before and after desilting storm water drains to ensure no flooding during the monsoon. All storm water drains are supposed to be desilted before the onset of monsoon. However, if the condition of the storm water drain designed to carry rainwater to Bellandur Lake is anything to go by, it appears the respective engineers are yet to pull up their socks.

It is said that many storm water drains are filled with garbage and weeds. The storm water drain passing through Halasuru is filled with garbage, well-grown weeds, and accumulated silt. Residents and activists say that these conditions would prevent the smooth flow of rainwater during the monsoon, causing waterlogging or flooding in and around Lakshmipura and nearby areas whenever it rains heavily.

Residents have complained that the authorities have failed to keep the storm water drain free from garbage and weeds. "The entire stretch of the storm water drains between Halasuru Lake and Cambridge Layout is full of weeds for more than a year. I do not know why engineers failed to remove silt, weeds, and garbage from the drain, which has become a breeding place for mosquitoes. The storm water drain has become a health hazard for people residing in nearby localities," said BR Chandran, a resident of Halasuru.

Appealing to GBA officials to take suitable measures, urban strategist Vinod Jacob said it is a recurring issue every year, with drains remaining clogged with silt and debris, leading to severe flooding. "We are spending crores to restore and clean Ulsoor Lake of silt and debris to increase its capacity. Restoring lakes is futile if these drains aren't cleared, as debris and silt redeposit them. The lakes and storm water drain system must be monitored continuously, with filters installed at inlets to prevent debris from entering. The GBA needs to act decisively before the monsoon arrives," he said.

Demanding action, Brahmananda Reddy, a resident of Gupta Layout, said the entire stretch of the drain along Nala Road is filled with garbage and weeds. "Authorities must remove all hurdles to facilitate smooth rainwater flow during the monsoon. There has been no development for more than a year," he said.

Orange line push: Land acquisition gains pace

Namma Metro Phase 3 sees progress as govt initiates land acquisition and prepares for construction along Hosahalli to Kadabagere stretch

Civil works delayed earlier, leading to extension of project deadline

The land acquisition process for Phase 3 of Namma Metro has gathered momentum, with the state government initiating steps to secure the required land parcels for the Hosahalli–Kadabagere corridor under the Orange Line. As part of the preliminary exercise, properties to be acquired between Hosahalli and KHB Colony station have been identified.

Phase 3 of Namma Metro comprises two major stretches: the Kempapura–JP Nagar 4th Phase line via Hebbal, spanning 32.41 km, and the Phase 3A Hosahalli–Kadabagere route, covering 12.5 km, taking the total network expansion to around 44.6 km.

Sources said delays in the commencement of civil works had led to an extension of the project deadline. The government has now begun issuing notifications for land acquisition in a phased manner to expedite progress. In March, a notification was issued for land acquisition between KHB Colony and Kamakshipalya. Subsequently, on April 18, another notification declared the required land between Hosahalli and KHB Colony as an industrial area to facilitate the construction of the viaduct and metro stations along the stretch.

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) plans to execute works under six packages for Phase 3 and two packages for Phase 3A. While the preliminary land acquisition process is underway, notifications for the remaining stretches from Kamakshipalya to Kadabagere and from Mutyalanagar to Kempapura are yet to be issued, according to BMRCL sources.

A senior official said, "Compensation for landowners will be deposited with the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB), which will subsequently disburse payments. Metro officials have indicated that work will begin following the tendering process." As per the initial Detailed Project Report, the project required 5,98,828 square metres of land. However, after receiving central approval, the state government proposed a double-decker corridor along this route, increasing the land requirement to an estimated 6,72,117 square metres, according to BMRCL.

The Centre, which is yet to approve the double-decker proposal, has sought further clarification from the state government and BMRCL. Meanwhile, BMRCL has floated tenders in three phases for civil works related to the Kempapura–JP Nagar 4th Phase stretch and the proposed double-decker sections, with an estimated cost of around Rs 4,187 crore.

DOCUMENT LOST

I, H.G.Vinod Krishna S/o H.S.Gopala, residing at No.07, 4th Main Road, 25th Cross, Karisandra, BSK 2nd stage, Bangalore South - 560070, stating that, i have lost the registered original sale deed (Document No.NMG-1-07252 / 2014-15) at Nelamangala on 01.03.2026 of my property situated Survey No.39/2 in Koolipur Village. In this regard, i have filed a complaint (No.2091411/2026) to Nelamangala Police Station on 03.03.2026. If anyone finds the said document, please contact the above address or the police station.

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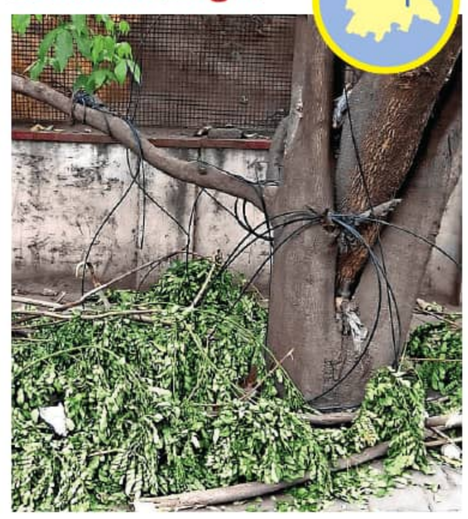
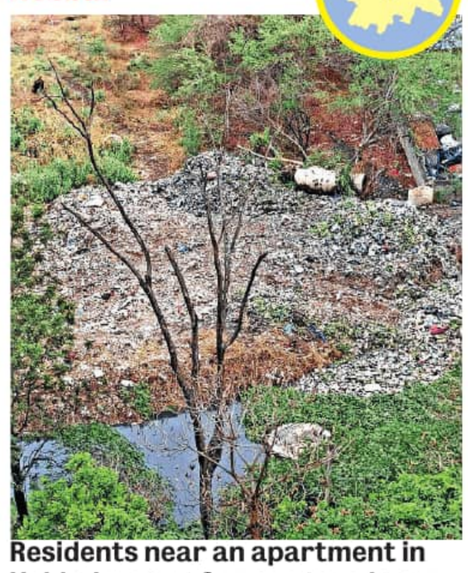
Blocked path
Sudhama Nagar



Fallen tree branches outside a residence on KH Road in Sudhama Nagar have remained uncleared for over a week, blocking pedestrians and turning into a dumping spot.

Health hazard
Hebbal



Residents near an apartment in Hebbal report frequent garbage burning, poor waste disposal, filthy roads, stagnant drains, and mosquito breeding.

Mounting waste
Sahakar Nagar

Garbage and dry leaves continue to pile up on 13th A Cross in Sahakar Nagar despite repeated complaints, with no visible response from civic authorities.

Roots over rules in spotlight

The Karnataka High Court has asked civic authorities in Bengaluru to reconsider their refusal to grant permission for a cultural programme organised to mark Shankaracharya Jayanti, stressing the importance of India's cultural and spiritual traditions.

Justice MI Arun was hearing a petition filed by a trust that had sought access to a public auditorium. The request had been rejected without clear legal justification, prompting the trust to move the court.

The court observed that India's secular character does not mean excluding religious or cultural expression from public life. It noted that the country's identity is closely tied to its traditions and remarked that distancing people from these roots would be akin to "removing the soul from the country".

It further said the Constitution reflects India's civilisational heritage. Events celebrating such traditions, the court noted, cannot be seen as inherently impermissible. Finding no rule barring use of the venue, the court termed the denial arbitrary and said what is not expressly prohibited should ordinarily be allowed.

However, it clarified organisers cannot claim an absolute right. Authorities were directed to reconsider the request in accordance with law. **BMB**

Bet remark rolls into trouble

A day after a court ordered the registration of an FIR over his remark during a Kabaddi match, Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara said, "It seems I cannot crack jokes." The case relates to his statement that he lost a ₹500 bet with the Deputy Commissioner during the match. Defending himself, the minister said the remark was casual and not intended to promote betting.

"In the countryside, we sometimes speak casually. It may be wrong in the eyes of the law, but context matters," he said.

Parameshwara added that he had not encouraged anyone to bet. "To say I am promoting illegal activity is a complete lie. It depends on how you perceive it," he said.

He said the matter ended with the game but was revived after a private complaint. While expressing respect for the law, he said he has left the matter to take its course.

The minister also said he had not received any notice. "Had I been informed, I would have explained the context," he said.

A magistrate court has directed police to initiate a probe and conduct a detailed investigation. **PTI**

Students vote for vote return

Setting aside political differences, student wings across Karnataka unanimously demanded the revival of student union elections in colleges from the current academic year.

The demand emerged at a meeting of student leaders convened by Medical Education Minister Sharana Prakash R Patil and Higher Education Minister M C Sudhakar.

The ministers assured that the government would largely follow the J M Lyngdoh Committee recommendations, with modifications suited to present conditions.

Student elections were banned in 1989 by the then Congress government led by Chief Minister Veerendra Patil, following violent campus clashes and growing political interference.

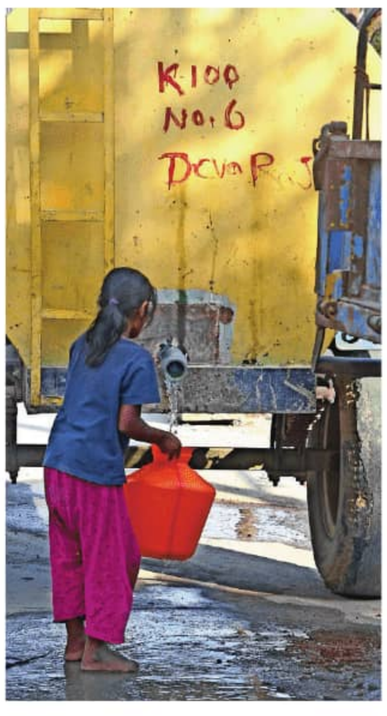
Welcoming the state government's Budget announcement to revive elections, representatives from the student wings of the Congress, BJP, JD(S) and Left parties spoke in one voice, urging immediate implementation.

According to an official release, participants stressed the need to restore democratic representation on campuses while ensuring safeguards to prevent violence and undue political influence.

The meeting marked a rare consensus across party lines on a long-pending issue affecting student governance in the state. **PTI**

Thirsty city turns to tankers

As summer intensifies, groundwater levels in several parts of the city are declining, leading to an early onset of water shortages. Many borewells have dried up, forcing apartments, commercial buildings, and households that depend on groundwater to rely on private water tankers.



Many areas are already facing reduced borewell output, with residents increasingly turning to tanker supplies. Private suppliers are charging around ₹600 for 6,000 litres and ₹1,200 for 12,000 litres within a 3 km radius. In several apartments, falling water levels have prompted residents to consider drilling new borewells amid concerns over future supply.

Although Cauvery water supply is available, many localities still depend on borewells, worsening the shortage. While officials maintain that there is no disruption in Cauvery water supply and that tanker services are being arranged based on demand, residents claim supply has reduced in some areas. Experts attribute the crisis to a lack of rainfall, which has dried up lakes and surface water sources, affecting groundwater recharge. With pre-monsoon showers expected only by mid- to late May, the shortage is likely to persist in the coming weeks. **BMB**

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City corporations may purchase properties to recover unpaid taxes

After failed auctions and poor response, civic bodies plan direct property acquisition at guidance value to tackle mounting unpaid tax burden

Sridhar.Vivan
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With property tax defaulters continuing to ignore repeated notices, attachment orders and auction warnings, civic authorities under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) are now considering a new approach. Officials are exploring the option of municipal corporations purchasing such properties at guidance value to recover long-pending dues.

Over the years, legal measures such as issuing demand notices, seizing properties and initiating public auctions have been used to recover taxes from defaulters. All five city corporations conducted auctions as part of enforcement, but only a handful of property owners came forward to clear dues out of fear of auction. In most cases, auctions failed to attract bidders, and expected revenue collection did not materialise. In this backdrop, authorities are now looking at acquiring such properties directly as a last resort.

A senior official said, "Under the proposed plan, civic bodies will consider only the guidance value while purchasing properties. From this amount, pending property tax, penalties, interest and administrative charges will be deducted, and the remaining balance will be transferred to the original owner's bank account. The property will then be registered in the name of the respective municipal corporation. Even at this stage, defaulters will be given a final deadline to clear all dues, including interest. If payment is made within this period, acquisition proceedings will be withdrawn and the property returned."

Authorities intensify recovery efforts as surveys, notices and auctions fall short, prompting a shift towards direct purchase of long-pending defaulted properties

With over 1.7 lakh defaulters and massive revenue losses, authorities are tightening enforcement, using surveys and a new acquisition strategy to push compliance and deter chronic tax evasion

Across the five corporations, there are over 24 lakh properties, and property tax forms a key source of revenue. However, more than 1.7 lakh property owners have not paid taxes for several years, resulting in an estimated loss of around ₹600 crore. Despite sustained efforts by civic bodies, many owners have remained unresponsive.

After coming to power, the Congress government introduced a one-time settlement scheme offering relief on penalties and interest, but only a limited number of defaulters used the opportunity. Authorities also identified 7,020 properties with long-pending dues amounting to several crores and initiated auction proceedings. Notices were issued and revenue officials oversaw the process, but most defaulters did not respond, leading to the failure of this initiative as well.

"Additionally, tax evasion worth ₹688 crore has been detected from around 23,000 properties. Since the self-assessment property tax system was introduced in 2008-09, many owners have allegedly under-reported property dimensions to evade taxes. Using drone surveys and field inspections, officials have begun identifying such discrepancies. In several wards, surveys have been completed, and notices have been issued to owners after verifying actual property sizes through on-site visits and photographic evidence", said an official.

Meanwhile, officials noted that many owners have been misusing residential tax rates despite using properties for commercial purposes or renting them out, thereby avoiding higher tax liability. Despite multiple enforcement actions, including notices, attachment and auction warnings, defaulters have largely remained non-compliant. In view of this, authorities are now seriously considering purchasing such listed properties at guidance value to recover pending taxes, according to a senior official.

Bamboo screens supposed to cover retaining walls

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spread outward and is slow-growing. This variety is known for growing new clumps from the rhizome and thus creates a thick green wall over time. Bamboo, once established, does not require a lot of water to sustain itself and thus is an ideal choice. The green screen will reduce the foul smell apart from improving the aesthetics," said a GBA official.

Notably, some portion of the SWD network in the city already has reinforced concrete lining, and more such concrete retaining walls are to be constructed along the SWDs to mitigate flood vulnerability of low-lying areas. The bamboo screen is expected to cover the retaining walls and give a green look to the SWD network.

GBA is also planning to develop an application for the smooth execution of the project. Bamboo saplings will also be planted around lakes, and the project is independent of GBA's annual plantation drive.

"Bamboo plantation along SWDs and lakes is not replacing our annual plantation drive. GBA already has nearly one lakh saplings in its nurseries for the plantation drive. Tenders for that will be called soon," informed a GBA official.

However, city-based environmentalists and activists are not pleased with the initiative. They say new projects should not be launched before completing existing ones.

"GBA should focus on completing pending projects first. One such project is K100, which was started with a bang, and the first leg of the project has also not been completed. GBA, along with other agencies such as BMRCL, has been carrying out compensatory plantations instead of various infrastructure projects. Focus should be on ensuring the survival of these saplings. Currently, citizen activists have taken the responsibility to manage these saplings. These aspects should be looked into and strengthened instead of frittering on grandeur projects that might reach nowhere," said Dattatreya Devare, trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust and a city-based environmentalist.

Some experts opine that while drought-prone varieties of bamboo may survive with less water after they have established themselves, bamboo is highly water-dependent when young.

"Bengaluru is struggling with water management. We are still heavily dependent on groundwater, and water levels in reservoirs such as KRS are at an all-time low. Young bamboo requires frequent watering to prevent leaf damage. GBA should rather focus on rebuilding the avenue tree canopy by planting native species along the main roads across the city. Many avenue trees over the last few years have been brought down for various reasons, creating a canopy gap," said Vinod Jacob, environmentalist and urban strategist.

Flood prevention fast-tracked before monsoon

Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao has directed officials to take urgent measures to prevent flooding in Sai Layout ahead of the monsoon, with a key railway vent work at Geddalahalli scheduled for completion by April 30.

During an inspection of ongoing projects and civic issues, Rao reviewed stormwater management efforts, including box-pushing work near the railway track to improve water flow. One vent has already been pushed up to 12 metres, with work progressing at 2 metres per day. Officials expect to complete a second vent by May 30, along with RCC retaining wall construction.

To mitigate immediate flood risks, officials from the city corporation and BDA will set up temporary water storage and pumping systems. Authorities have also ordered desilting of stormwater drains in the Hebbal valley.

Rao instructed officials to expedite the 5-km white-topping work on Hennur–Bagalur Road and complete it by June 15, warning that delays by contractors will attract penalties. **–BMB**

US woman assaulted at Kodagu homestay

A US national was allegedly sexually assaulted by a staffer of a homestay in this district, police said on Wednesday. The incident occurred a week ago at a homestay in Kutta village in Kodagu, police said. The staffer, a native of Jharkhand working in the hospitality section, has been arrested in connection with the incident. Police also arrested the homestay owner for failing to inform authorities when the woman reported the alleged assault, a senior officer said.

According to police, the woman alleged that the accused spiked her drink and then sexually assaulted her at the homestay. When she later approached the owner, he allegedly tried to suppress the complaint and disconnected WiFi services for three days, preventing her from contacting anyone. After regaining access, she left the premises on the pretext of travelling to Mysuru and contacted US embassy officials, who facilitated commuincation with local authorities **–BMB**

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Only 13.3% pillion riders wore full-face helmets

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the prevalence of correct use of helmets is only 34%. Notably, about 26% of riders and 47% of pillion riders were wearing cap helmets (non-standard helmets). Almost 37% of the riders had not strapped their helmet at the time of observation.

Lead of the study, Prof Gautham Melur Sukumar, Department of Epidemiology, Center for Public Health, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru, said, "The study shows that though helmet use is high, the prevalence of correct helmet use is low and the use of non-standard helmets is common. Hence, most riders are not adequately protected against head injuries and fatalities."

The disparity is more pronounced when broken down: 38.4% of riders used helmets correctly, compared to just 16.6% of pillion riders. Full-face helmet usage, considered the safest, stood at 44.3% among riders, but only 13.3% among pillion riders.

Nearly 47.2% of pillion riders relied on cap helmets, which are non-standard and offer minimal protection, compared to 26.7% among riders. Even among those wearing helmets, improper usage remains a concern — only 50.9% of pillion riders had their helmets strapped, further reducing effectiveness in the event of a crash.

While the number of road traffic injury fatalities in Bengaluru was recorded at 772 for the year 2022 as against 651 in 2021. Riders and pillions contributed to more than half of total fatalities (55.8%) .

The study says, "Data from existing information systems reported that a higher proportion of two-wheeler fatalities were wearing a helmet at the time of the crash, raising questions about the effectiveness of helmets. This paradoxical observation is conceptually explained by a high prevalence of non-standard helmet use in the population.

As the current accident reporting formats do not capture the type of helmet used at the time of the crash, this has led to erroneous interpretations of the effectiveness of helmets."

A traffic warden told BM that they see several cases of riders and pillion passengers travelling without helmets. "At times, just the pillion rider is not wearing it. We create awareness on a daily basis especially in busy areas like Banashankari and Lalbagh. That's why we focus on catching them young, through awareness programmes in schools and colleges. We educate those below 18 not to ride or drive, and teach them basics like safe pedestrian crossing. Once they turn 18, we emphasise on the importance of wearing helmets, using seat belts, and ensuring pillion riders are also protected."

The official highlighted that many two-wheeler users do not carry a second helmet stating that they were going for a short distance and didn't require one.

"However, the thought that short rides are safe is a myth. Most accidents can occur within a few kilometres of home. Despite carrying out awareness on the use of helmets and asking to wear fully covered helmets, violations are reported everyday."

A health professional said they get pillion riders with severe traumatic brain injuries because they were either not wearing a helmet or using a loose, non-standard one. "Unlike other injuries, damage to the brain is often irreversible. A correctly fitted and strapped helmet is not just a precaution — it is the single most effective protection against fatal head injury in two-wheeler accidents," the doctor said.

RS polls bribery: Interim relief to 4

The Karnataka High Court has granted interim relief to four individuals accused in a bribery case linked to the Odisha Rajya Sabha elections, directing authorities not to initiate any coercive action against them for the time being.

The matter arises from allegations that the accused tried to influence Congress MLAs from Odisha ahead of the March 2026 Rajya Sabha polls by offering them large sums of money. The incident has been politically described as part of 'Operation Lotus', a term often used to refer to alleged attempts to engineer defections. Justice M Nagaprasanna, while hearing petitions seeking to quash the FIR, ordered that no precipitative steps be taken against the petitioners until further orders. The court has posted the matter for the next hearing.

Appearing for the accused, their counsel argued that the case was driven by political motives and lacked substantive evidence. It was submitted that although the FIR refers to an alleged offer of money, no cash was recovered and no trap proceedings were conducted to support the claims. The defence also contended that the offences cited in the FIR were incorrectly treated as cognisable. **BMB**

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I, ABDUL KABEER, S/o. P Kaleem Ulla, residing at No. 443, Masjid Road, Parvathinagar, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562107 declaring that both ABDUL KABEER and ABDUL KHABEER names are one and the same person and refers to me only, hence forth my name in all documents shall continue to ABDUL KABEER, vide affidavit dated 16.03.2026, sworn before notary K Velayudham, Bengaluru.

I, SONAL SAKRAYAPATANA DHARMEGOWDA resident of:NO B201 RMZ LATITUDE APT BELLARY ROAD AMRUTHNAGAR BENGALURU - 560092 have changed my minor child name from PRANIL SONAL LIKHITHA (old name), to PRANIL GOWDA (NEW NAME) vide affidavit dated: 14/4/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I, JABIR SALEEM ABDUL KAREEM (Old Name) resident of No.5/1, 7th Main, BTM 1 Stage, Bengaluru-560029, have changed my name to JABIR SALEEM (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 21/4/2026 Before Notary M.K.Devaki Bangalore.

I, ARUN HARIHARAN , resident of: NO 150 11TH A CROSS 2ND STAGE WEST OF CHORD ROAD MAHALAKSHMIPURAM BENGALURU – 560086 have changed my minor child name from SATHVIK (Old name), to SATHVIK ARUN (NEW NAME) Vide affidavit dated: 14/4/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I, RAVI KALE, Residing at HONNESHWAR NILAY, VISHESHA BADAVANE, MADHUGIRI, TUMKUR-572132 Today camp at Bengaluru have changed my name to RAVI J KALE (RAVI JAYAWANT KALE) vide affidavit dated:22/04/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I, UDAY (Old Name) S/o Puttappa, Residing at C26 Prakash Citadel Apts Muninagappa Layout K B Sandra Bengaluru- 560032 have changed my name to UDAY PUTTAPPA (New Name) Vide affidavit dated: 20/4/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I, CHAITHRA C, D/o CHIKKATHIMAIAH, R/o Chaluvaiyanapalya, Belagumba, Ramanagara, Karnataka- 562120. I have changed my name to AAYAT SHEIKH vide affidavit dated: 21/04/2026 Before Notary RAMACHANDRAPPA. C Bengaluru.

I, B S SATISH KUMAR residing at No 181, Shri Lakshmi Krupa, 2nd Main Road, Shabari Layout, RK Hedge Nagar, Bengaluru – 560077 have changed my name to B S SATHISH KUMAR vide affidavit dated 21/04/2026 sworn before notary H Sridhar Rao Bangalore

I, KRISHNA POOJARI JATTA POOJARI, Residing at No.104/I, 5th Main, Kuvempu Nagar 2nd Stage, Mysuru – 560023, have changed my name to KRISHNA POOJARI, vide affidavit dated 11/04/2026, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, Farhath Jahan Khazi, W/o Mohammed Emran Quazi, R/o 16 Fatima An Enclave, 16th F Street, Kalasipalya, Bangalore – 560002 have changed my name to Farhatha Jahan Quazi.

I, RUBI THOMAS KOSHY, R/at No.F6, No.28/1/18, Prabhavathi Woods, 6th Cross, Vishwapriya Layout Begur, Bengaluru-560 068, have changed my name to RUBY MARY THOMAS, vide affidavit dt: 22.04.2026, before notary B. Chitra, Bengaluru.

I, KOUSHIKA YEKKALURI, D/o ASHOK KUMAR YEKKALURI, R/o No B22 Gopalan Urban Woods Sri Krishna Temple Road Garudacharpalya Mahadevapura Bangalore - 560048. I have changed my name to KIARA YEKKALURI FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

I, IDDRIS PASHA, S/o AKRAM PASHA, R/o No. 35 Ground Floor RT Nagar Chamundinagar Main Road, Bengaluru - 560032. I have changed my name to IDREES PASHA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

I, RHEA, D/o MOHAMED ALI JINNAH MOHIDEEN, R/o No B-303, Manasa Royal Ashrama Road Hinkal Post Mysore - 570017. I have changed my name to RHEA MOHAMED ALI JINNAH FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

I, VANITHA REDDY, R/at No. 65, G.K Layout, 13th Cross, Parappana Agrahara, Bengaluru-560100, have changed my name to VANITHA REDDY R, vide affidavit dt: 22.04.2026, Notary B. Chitra, Bengaluru.

I, ILMAN SUMMAIYA, D/o ABDUL SAMAD, R/o No. 5/9, 20th Cross Lakkasandra, Bangalore South, Adugodi - 560030. I have changed my name to ELMAN SUMMAIYA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

I, Mallappa S/o, Chandrappa R/o No 80/30,2nd Floor,8th Main Road,shakambari Nagar,JP nagar, B'luru 560078 have changed my name to Mallikarjuna For All Purposes.

I, Tejaswini Kamat, Residing at No.204, 2nd Cross, 2nd Main, Kasturinagar, East of NGEF Layout, Bangalore-560043, have Changed my Name to Tejaswini

I Jitendra Gokuldas Sachde S/O, Gokuldas Hemraj Gokuldas Sachde R/o No 132/21, Flat No 602 Tara Apartments, Infantry Road, Shivaji Nagar Bengaluru - 560001 have changed my name to Jitendra Sachde.

I Mari Asunta Dominic W/O, Francis Dominic R/o No 2047, C Block Sahakarnagar, Bengaluru - 560092 have changed my name to Maria Asuntha.

I, Junaid Ahamed S/o C F Abdul Jaleel R/o Ameena Beaufort 226, GF, Nawab Hyder Ali Road Kalasipalyam B'lore-560002 have changed my name to Junaid Ahmed.

LOST & FOUND

DOCUMENT LOST
I, Imtiaz R. Sherief Urf Imtiazunnisa, residing at No.54, 5th Cross, Kinto High School, Vinayaka Nagar, New Guddadahalli, Bangalore-560026, stating that, I have lost the original registered sale deed of my property (Document No.5836/1990-91) at Nayandanahalli between 01.07.2025 and 22.04.2026. In this regard, i have filed a complaint (L.R. No.2167053/2026) to Bangalore City Police. If anyone finds the said document, please contact the above address or mobile: 9845859174.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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No.105, 12th Main, Opp.BHCS Layout, Gowdanapalya, Bangalore-61
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW
Saturday: 25.04.2026 Time: 10.30 a.m - 1.30 p.m
Subject: English, Hindi - B.A, M.A / B.Ed
Physics, Mathematics - B.Sc, M.Sc / B.Ed
Dance - Senior Grade, Physical Education- B.PEd, M.PEd.

BRIGHT WAY PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Principal: - M.Sc, M.A, M.Com / B.Ed
(Experience: 10 - 15 years)
(Resumes can be sent early to our E-mail)
Email: brightways.school@yahoo.in
Contact: 080 - 2639 6720, Mob: 92412 04762

Bowlers of both teams outperform batsmen who seemed helpless on low-score day

Lucknow totters despite brilliant bowling effort

Lucknow Super Giants' Indian cricket player Prince Yadav celebrates after taking the wicket of Rajasthan Royals' Donovan Ferreira; RR bowler Nandre Burger celebrates after taking the wicket of LSG captain Rishab Pant

Lucknow Super Giants batsmen almost squandered the advantage they were given by speedsters Mohammed Shami, Prince Yadav and Mohsin Khan that restricted Rajasthan Royals (RR) to 159/6 in their 20 overs in the Indian Premier League (IPL) in Lucknow on Wednesday. With three wickets of the top order toppled with 0 runs to their name, the team looked like it was losing the way.

Earlier, Ravindra Jadeja top-scored for RR, smashing 43 off 29 to take his side to a fighting total after early setbacks.

For LSG, Shami, Yadav, and Khan took two wickets each, while Mayank Yadav and Digvesh Rathi went wicketless.

Asked to bat first, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Vaibhav Sooryavanshi opened the innings for Rajasthan Royals, with Jaiswal and Sooryavanshi once again setting the tone early by racing to 20 in just two overs with their trademark aggression.

However, veteran pacer Mohammed Shami turned the game on its head, delivering a double blow, first dismissing the in-form Jaiswal for 22 after conceding two consecutive boundaries, and then removing Dhruv Jurel for a golden duck on the very next delivery.

Mohsin Khan also made an impact by dismissing the dangerous Sooryavanshi for 8 after building pressure with five consecutive dot balls. Following the early setbacks, skipper Riyan Parag and Shimron Hetmyer steadied the innings for Rajasthan Royals, rotating the strike effectively while finding boundaries at regular intervals.

The duo added crucial runs before Riyan Parag was dismissed by Prince Yadav for 20 at the end of the ninth over. Parag's lean run in IPL 2026 continues, with the Rajasthan Royals skipper still struggling to find consistency with the bat.

Shimron Hetmyer shifted gears in the following over, taking on Mayank Yadav and smashing him for 14 runs to revive the Rajasthan Royals' innings. However, Mohsin Khan struck back in the very next over, getting the better of Hetmyer for 22 and bringing Donovan Ferreira to the crease.

As a 33-run partnership was getting strong between Ferreira and Ravindra Jadeja, Prince Yadav struck, removing Ferreira for 20, bringing Impact Player Shubham Dubey to the crease.

Mohsin Khan continued his impressive spell, maintaining tight control and conceding just six runs in the 17th over.

Rathi completed his spell with a slightly expensive over as Dubey finally breaks the shackles, picking up a boundary with an outside edge over backward point in the 18th over.

Dubey took on Prince Yadav in the 19th over, hitting him for two fours. Jadeja finally opened up his arms in the last over and smashed 20 runs in the final over to take RR to 159 in their 20 overs. — ANI

Today's battle
Mumbai Indians
VS
Chennai Super Kings
7.30 PM Mumbai

JOBS FOR YOU YourCV

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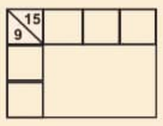
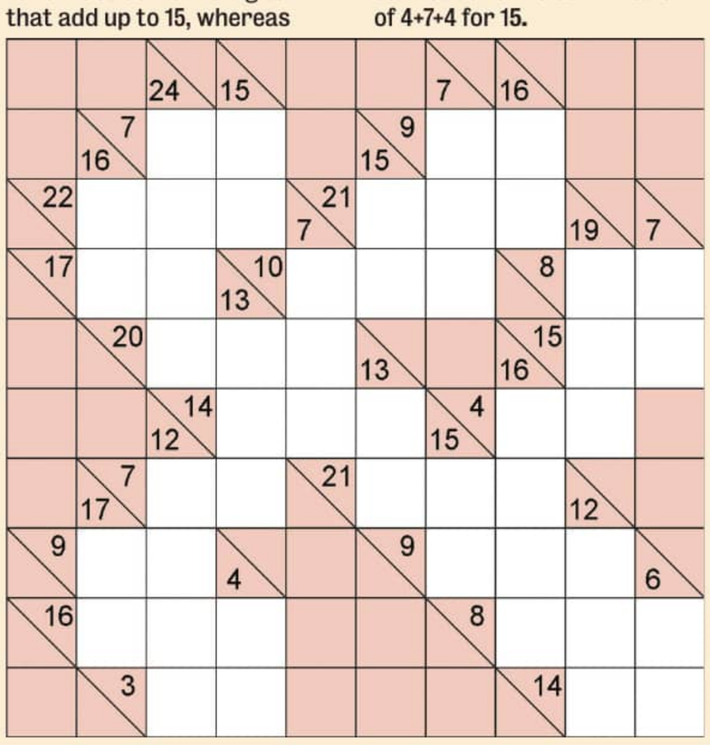
Kakuro

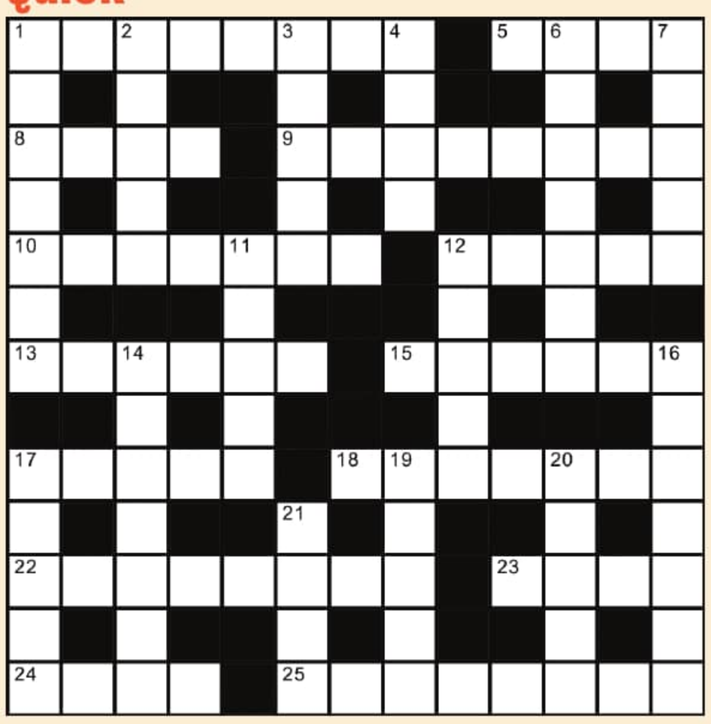
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 God (8)
5 Chimney covering (4)
8 Suggestive (4)
9 Speculating or betting (8)
10 They have a following! (7)
12 Muscular pain (5)
13 Bangalore's favourite beverage (6)
15 Travelling on long slender runners, as for sport. (6)
17 Piquant (5)
18 Nazi secret police (7)
22 Viewer or spectator (8)
23 Greek letters–"seat" changed ? (4)
24 Require (4)
25 Embarrassed (3-5)

DOWN

1 Man-made fibre (7)
2 Birthplace of Mohammed (5)
3 Cartoon Viking (5)
4 Hindu God of death (4)
6 A paper-folding art (7)
7 Help in mounting (3-2)
11 Football manager Unai ___ (5)
12 Pastries (5)
14 Skill (7)
16 Grumbled or complained (7)
17 Barb or prickle (5)
19 Folded a page corner (5)
20 Frolic or caper (5)
21 Six cricket deliveries (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: B EQUALS G

KQKHTL RY U BRBBJRFB YGTRMQ UFZ VRJJ FHM IQ MUKQZ. YNQ MUDQY AJRBNM MNQ KHKQFM MNQ GTQYQFM IQPHKQY MNQ GUYM.

Linemaro

Your body is 65 per cent water and I am thirsty

Mindchow

Discipline is choosing between what you want now and what you want most

Joke of the day

What do you call a deep sea Transformer? Octopus Prime!

Loop

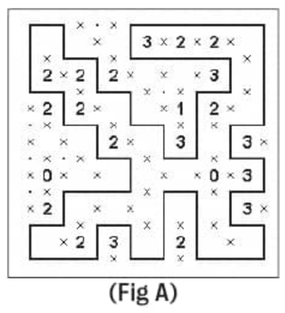
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

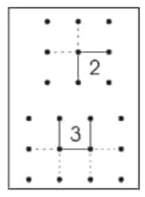
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

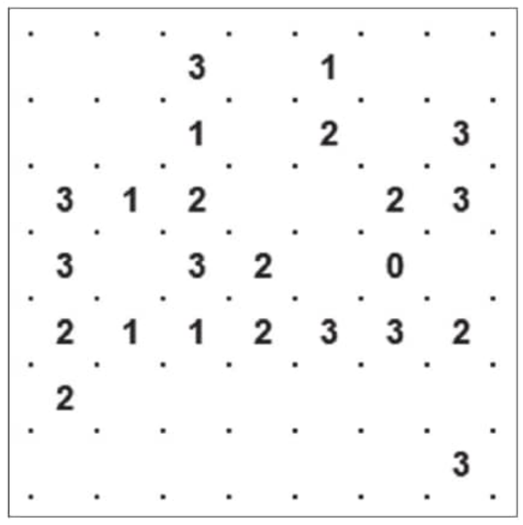
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



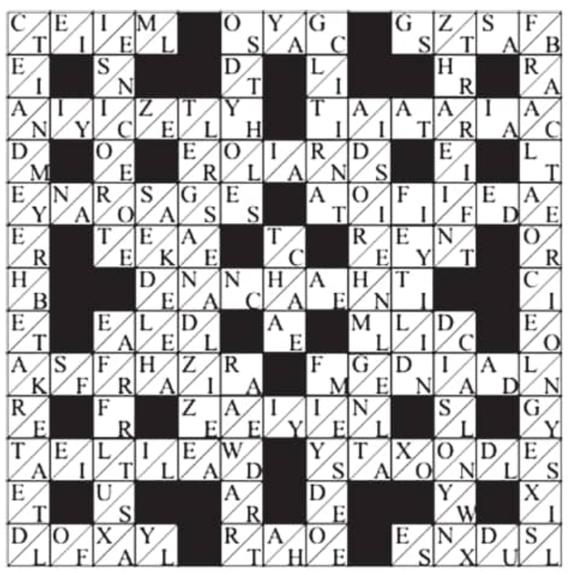
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9		Y		

ACROSS

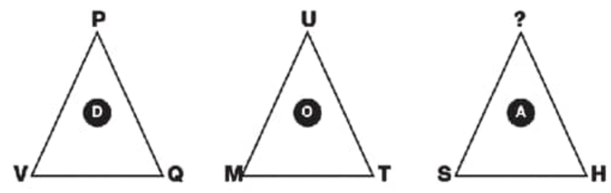
1 Sush H; 6 Cot on; 7 At sal; 8 A veer; 9 Reply

DOWN

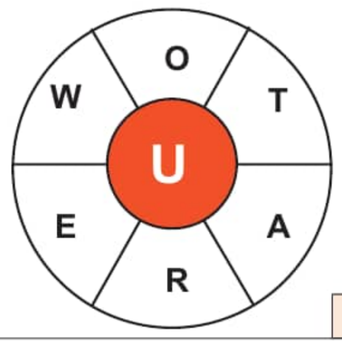
1 Scrap; 2 Helot; 3 NY alu; 4 Vesta; 5 Horse

Mensapuzzle

Which letter tops the third triangle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	4		7		6			3
		6			2		4	
1	2					7		
8			3					
3			1	4	9			7
					8			5
		9					2	4
	3		9			1		
4			2		1		3	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 4

3 8 8 7

Medium = 7

4 5 8 3

Hard = 36

3 4 5 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

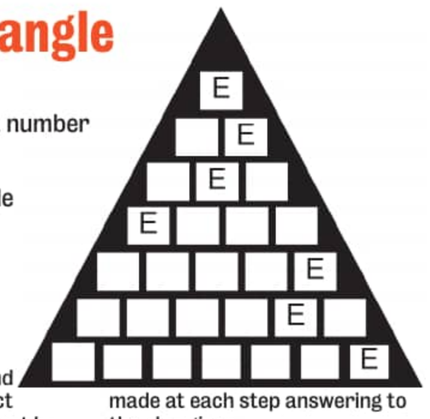
Differences: 1. Word is moved. 2. Thumb is moved. 3. Pitcher is moved. 4. Stack of cups is higher. 5. House is wider. 6. There are four boards on side of crate instead of three.

Riddler

When you behead a word, you remove the first letter and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Neon symbol
3 First double digit number
4 Sicilian spouter
5 Infernal, writer?
6 Daisy's velocipede
7 Authority to act

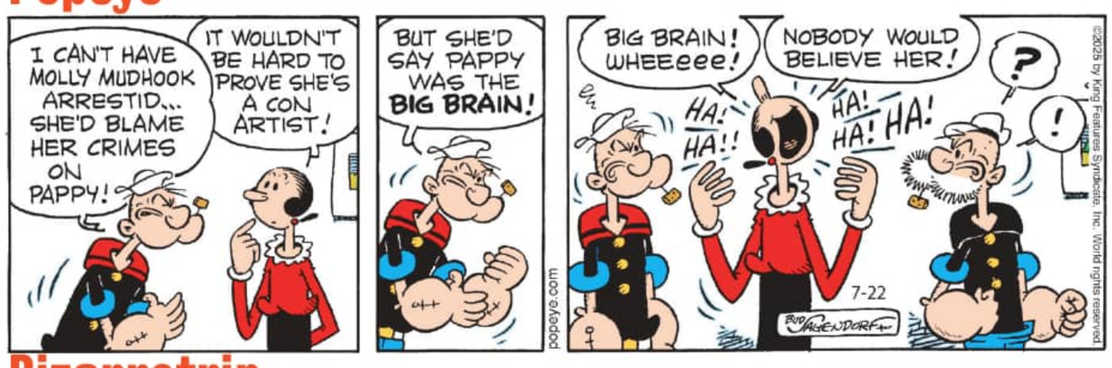


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye


I CAN'T HAVE MOLLY MUDHOOK ARRESTID... SHE'D BLAME HER CRIMES ON PAPPY!
IT WOULDN'T BE HARD TO PROVE SHE'S A CON ARTIST!
BUT SHE'D SAY PAPPY WAS THE BIG BRAIN!
BIG BRAIN! WHEEEEE!
NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE HER!
HA! HA!!
HA! HA! HA!
?
!
7-22
BUD SAGENDORF
popeye.com
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Bizarrotrip

BIZARRO.COM
Wayno & Piraro 1·10·26
At some point, we'll have to tell him he was adopted.
Dist by King Features
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Diamond Lil

NOT JUST ANYONE CAN GET INTO THE LIARS' CLUB, LIL!
...OUR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HAS ABNORMALLY HIGH STANDARDS!
SO WHAT IF YOU'RE NOT A GOOD LIAR?
THERE'S ALWAYS THE FIBBERS' CLUB!
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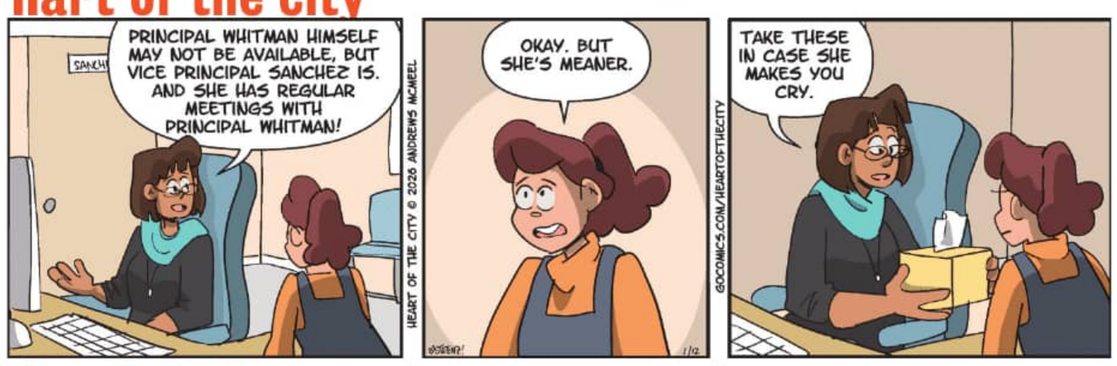
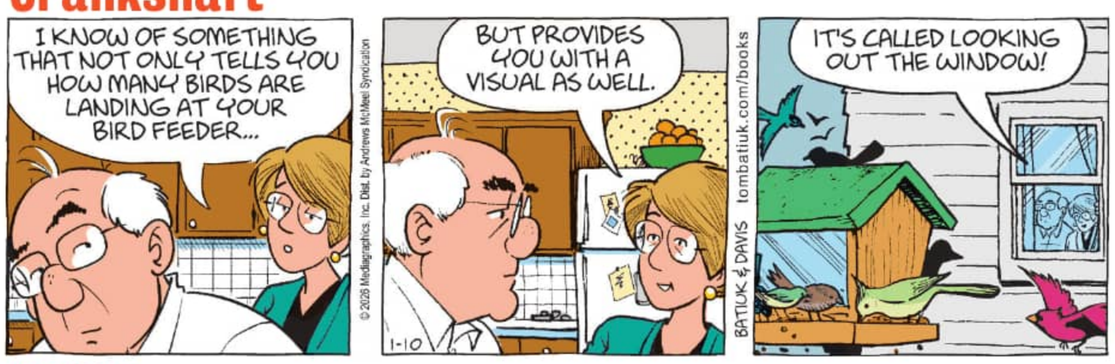
Hart of the city


PRINCIPAL WHITMAN HIMSELF MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE, BUT VICE PRINCIPAL SANCHEZ IS. AND SHE HAS REGULAR MEETINGS WITH PRINCIPAL WHITMAN!
OKAY. BUT SHE'S MEANER.
TAKE THESE IN CASE SHE MAKES YOU CRY.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
1/12

Crankshaft


I KNOW OF SOMETHING THAT NOT ONLY TELLS YOU HOW MANY BIRDS ARE LANDING AT YOUR BIRD FEEDER...
BUT PROVIDES YOU WITH A VISUAL AS WELL.
IT'S CALLED LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW!
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1-10
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Dr SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Today your birthday launches a year filled with creativity, courage, and promising journeys. Travel linked to career ambitions opens surprising doors. Romance feels joyful, supportive, and sincere. Finances grow steadier with patience and smart habits. Domestic life becomes lively with shared laughter, music, and comforting rituals. Celebrate, trust your ideas, and welcome the adventures, friendships, and success heading your way.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Step into the spotlight today, Aries. Your confidence and lively energy attract attention wherever you go. Dress boldly, socialize, and enjoy the admiration—this rare moment of recognition deserves to be celebrated.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Work brings you satisfaction today, Taurus. Others appreciate your efforts, even if you doubt yourself occasionally. Trust that your dedication and progress are noticed and valued by those around you.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

A promising partnership may develop today, Gemini. Collaboration will be productive, but remember to listen to everyone's opinions before sharing your own ideas. Balanced teamwork ensures your suggestions are well received.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Your intuition feels unusually strong today, Cancer. Trust your instincts when planning your day or making decisions. Careful choices will help avoid misunderstandings and maintain harmony with others.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Balance improves in your relationships today, Leo. Both personal and professional connections grow stronger as mutual respect develops. Listen to others' suggestions and keep communication open for smoother interactions.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

You may feel inspired to organize your surroundings today, Virgo. Cleaning your space or clearing your mind will help restore calm and focus, bringing a sense of order and peace.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

It's time to acknowledge your accomplishments, Libra. Being humble is admirable, but don't allow others to claim credit for your work. Show confidence in what you contribute.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Spending time with family may bring comfort today, Scorpio. If you've been feeling overwhelmed, reconnecting with loved ones can restore your emotional balance and provide a sense of security.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Keeping a low profile may benefit you today, Sagittarius. Avoid seeking attention and ignore criticism from others. Maintaining quiet confidence helps preserve your peace of mind.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Someone close may need your attention today, Capricorn. Reach out to friends you've lost touch with and reconnect. Maintaining supportive relationships reminds you that you're not alone.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Confidence fills you today, Aquarius. Take this opportunity to step beyond your comfort zone, try new experiences, and express yourself boldly without fear.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

A welcome break from responsibilities may arrive today, Pisces. Use this free time to relax, travel, or enjoy activities that refresh your spirit and bring joy.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE

Neel Ponnappa, 11 years, Ekya School

Chukitha S, 6 years, BBMP School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER

1. Cable -> Able,
2. Caged -> Aged,
3. Cease -> Ease,
4. Clean -> Lean

BULL'S EYE

auto, OUTWEAR, rout, route, tour, true, urea

FAST FIVE

S	H	U	S	H
C	O	N	T	O
A	T	L	A	S
R	E	A	V	E
P	L	Y	E	R

QUOTE UNCODE

Memory is a giggling sprite and will not be tamed. She takes flight the moment the present becomes the past.

STRIKE OUT

D	O	X	Y	■	R	H	O	■	E	N	D	S		
E	■	U	■	A	■	D	■	W	■	I	■	■		
T	I	L	L	E	D	■	S	T	O	O	L	S		
R	■	F	■	Z	A	Y	I	N	■	S	■	Y		
A	F	F	A	I	R	■	M	E	D	I	A	L		
E	■	E	L	D	■	E	■	M	I	D	■	O		
H	■	■	E	N	C	H	A	N	T	■	■	I		
R	■	E	K	E	■	T	■	R	E	T	■	R		
E	N	R	A	G	E	■	T	O	F	F	E	E		
D	O	■	E	L	A	N	D	■	I	■	T	■		
N	I	C	E	L	Y	■	I	A	T	R	I	C		
E	■	N	■	T	■	L	■	H	■	■	■	A		
T	E	E	M	■	S	A	G	■	S	T	A	B		

QUICK

N	E	E	D	■	R	E	D	F	A	C	E	D		
R	■	S	■	E	■	E	■	I	■	E	■	E		
O	B	S	E	R	V	E	R	■	E	T	A	S		
H	■	■	E	■	O	■	■	N	■	■	■	U		
T	A	N	G	■	G	E	S	T	A	P	O	■		
■	I	■	R	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	R	■		
C	O	F	F	E	E	■	S	K	I	I	N	G		
I	■	■	M	■	■	■	A	■	M	■	■	■		
L	E	A	D	E	R	S	■	C	R	A	M	P		
Y	■	C	■	A	■	■	G	■	■	■	■	U		
R	A	C	Y	■	G	A	M	B	L	I	N	G		
C	■	E	■	A	■	■	R	■	■	■	■	E		
A	L	M	I	G	H	T	Y	■	C	O	W	L		

MENSA PUZZLE

A. Add the reverse alphabetical value of the bottom two letters of each triangle and subtract the reverse alphabetical value of the top letter to give the value of the middle letter in alphabetical order.

SOLVE IN 1M

-2 - 4 - 8 x (2÷(-1)) =
-2 -4 - 8 x (-2) =
-6 + 16 = 10

SUDOKU

4	8	7	2	6	1	5	3	9
2	3	5	9	8	4	1	7	6
6	1	9	5	7	3	8	2	4
7	9	4	6	2	8	3	1	5
3	5	2	1	4	9	6	8	7
8	6	1	3	5	7	4	9	2
1	2	3	4	9	5	7	6	8
5	7	6	8	3	2	9	4	1
9	4	8	7	1	6	2	5	3

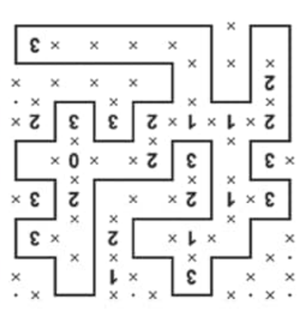
ALPHA TRIANGLE

E, Ne, Ten, Etna, Dante, Tandem, Mandate.

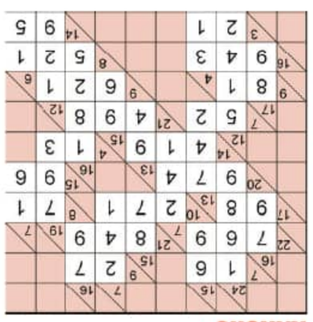
GO FIGURE

Easy
7 - 3 + 8 - 8 = 4
Medium
8 / 4 x 5 - 3 = 7
Hard
5 + 7 - 3 x 4 = 36

LOOP



KAKURO



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